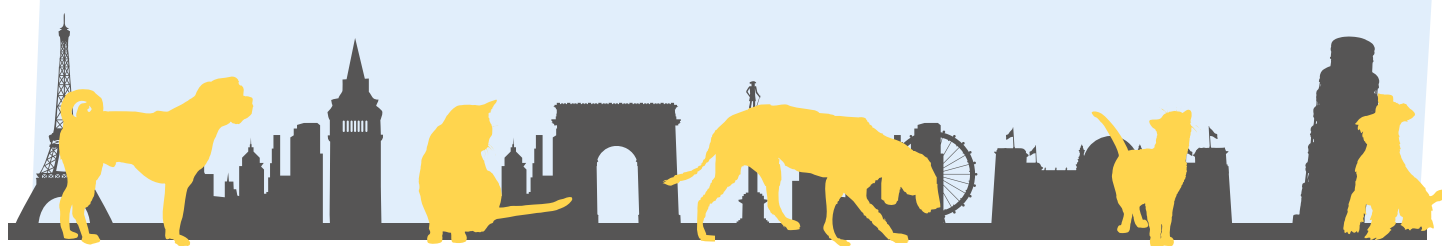


Romania



Identification and Registration

Dogs

In Romania, dogs must be identified with a microchip and registered in the central database of owned dogs by 90 days of age and before they are sold, given for free or before they are adopted from shelters. The Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directions (DSVSA) manage the microchips.

An ordinance of 1/09/2014 regulates dog identification and registration and gave owners of adult dogs until 1st Jan 2015 to apply the rules. Since that date, it is prohibited to keep unidentified and non-registered dogs. Dog owners must also be registered in the same database.

Any change to the dog's status (lost, stolen, death, sale) must be communicated to the register within 7 days.

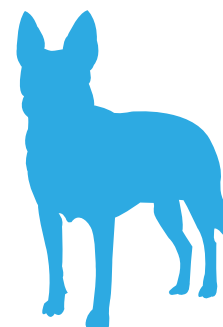
There is one national database for dogs, the Registry for Evidence of Owned Dogs (RECS) managed by the College of Veterinarians and available at: <https://rompetid.ro/registrul-de-evidenta-al-cainilor-cu-stapan/>. This database is not a member of Europetnet.

A dog which is not microchipped and registered in RECS, cannot be vaccinated against rabies, which is an obligation for all dogs and cats in Romania. All dogs must also be sterilised unless they belong to a specific breed, as proven by an official document from a dog breeding association.

Cats

There is no obligation to identify and register cats in Romania.

Cat owners can however decide to identify and register their cat through the portal for the registration of companion animals managed by RomPetID. However, the database for the registration of owned cats, owned ferrets and other owned pet animals was not active at the time of writing.



Regulation of dog and cat breeders

Law 205/2004 on animal welfare (and the implementing ordinance 31/2008) and Law 60/2004 refer to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of pet animals and include the following provisions for animal keepers to comply with:

- The obligation to respect sanitary and veterinary standards for housing, feeding, care, reproduction, exploitation, protection and animal welfare.
- The obligation to ensure, depending on the behavioural needs, species, breed, sex, age and type of production, the following: adequate shelter; sufficient food and water; the possibility of moving enough; care and regular inspection of the animals
- Puppies and kittens must not be separated from their mother before the age of 8 weeks.
- The size of the cages used to house dogs indoors must allow the animal to stand up and turn around.
- Dogs may be tied, with minimum 2 m length of chain. They also may be housed in a fenced paddock, with minimum six times the space of the cage.

Requirements for breeding dogs

Starting on 1st January 2015, all dogs must be sterilised unless they belong to a specific breed, as proven by an official document from a dog breeding association. The minimum age for sterilisation is 4 to 6 months for females and 6 to 8 months for males.

However this provision is included in Decision no. 1059 of 11 December 2013 which was suspended at the time of writing.

Kennels - defined as fenced units, with facilities and areas equipped for housing, husbandry, reproduction and selection of pure-bred dogs destined for public services or marketing - must be registered under the veterinary law.

To be registered, the kennel legal representative must submit several documents to the county veterinary and food safety direction or to the veterinary and food safety direction of Bucharest Municipality. These documents are:

- the application, following a model set up in annex 6 of ordinance 16/2010
- A certificate issued by the Trade Register

- A map describing the establishment
- The proof of ownership or the right to use the place where the establishment operates, in line with the legislation in force
- A sworn declaration that the establishment satisfies the sanitary conditions provided for by the veterinary law in force for the given activity.

Within 30 days of reception of the application, the staff of the veterinary direction checks the file and inspects the establishment. An evaluation report is then produced, based on a model provided for in the veterinary law, which states whether the establishment meets the veterinary requirements or not, and can thus be registered or not. The authorisation is issued within 5 days from the date of the evaluation report. If the establishment does not comply with the veterinary legislation, the operator has to remedy the deficiencies and request a new evaluation.

The inspection, however, mostly looks at hygiene rather than animal welfare aspects. Kennel operators have to comply with the requirements of the animal welfare law, but it is not a precondition to be registered. Indeed, to get the sanitary-veterinary authorisation an inspector evaluates the establishment on the basis of a check list which includes technical specifications such as the size of the housing, the sewage system etc. The animal protection law is mentioned and its provisions should be checked. There are no further legal provisions specifically on dog breeding. There are however rules on dog breeding from the Romanian Kennel Club (Asociatia Chinologica Romana AchR) which only apply to dogs registered at AchR. AchR is a member of the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI).

Many dog breeding establishments are however not registered in AchR, nor sanitary-veterinary authorised, nor controlled.

There is no official national database of registered dog breeders in Romania.

There is only a database "Cartea de origine Romana" (Stud Book) within the AchR (but as not all purebred dogs are registered in AchR, not all are included in the Stud Book)

There is a list of registered operators managed by the sanitary and veterinary directions (county and Bucharest), but it is not openly accessible.

Requirements for breeding cats

There are no specific requirements for breeding cats. The Romanian National Felinological Federation (FNFR) has its own internal rules but as in the case of AchR only the members must comply with it.

There are no clear provisions preventing the breeding of dogs and/or cats which have genetic problems such as inherited diseases or exaggerated conformations but a general provision in the animal welfare law can be interpreted as going in that direction. It says that "Animal keepers who select an animal for breeding must respect the anatomical characteristics and the physiological and behavioural needs of the species and breed concerned, not to compromise performance, and to ensure the health and welfare of the offspring".

There is no restriction on the number of animals a breeder can keep, as long as the legal health, sanitary and animal welfare standards are complied with.

Regular checks of operators are performed by inspectors from the veterinary and food safety directions (county or Bucharest municipality), but it is not clear how frequently these sanitary and welfare inspections take place.

There are no national welfare Guidelines or Codes of Practice for registered breeders to adhere to.

There are no specific requirements for the education/training of breeders.

Regulation of dog and cat traders

Commercial trade in companion animals is only allowed after registration in accordance with the veterinary and sanitary legal provisions, according to Ordinance 31-2008 on the implementation of the animal welfare law.

Pet shops must be registered with the veterinary authorities, following the same procedure as for dog breeding establishments (see above).

Only dogs which are identified and registered in the RECS system can be exposed in pet shops and other exhibition places to be sold.

When selling dogs and cats in pet shops, kennels and catteries, the seller must hand out written instructions to the buyer on the behavioural needs, physiological needs, safety and welfare of the animal sold.

There are no provisions concerning the sale of dogs and cats in markets and on the street. The sale of dogs and cats on the internet is not regulated.

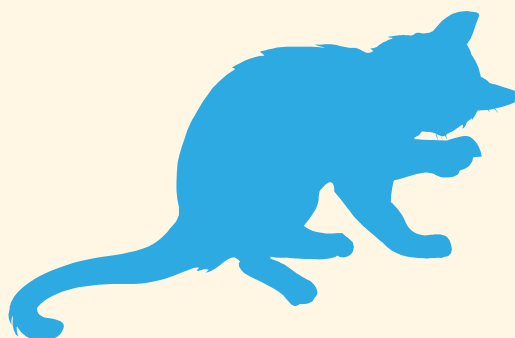
There is no minimum age at which cats and dogs can be sold. However, puppies and kittens cannot be separated from their mother before the age of eight weeks.

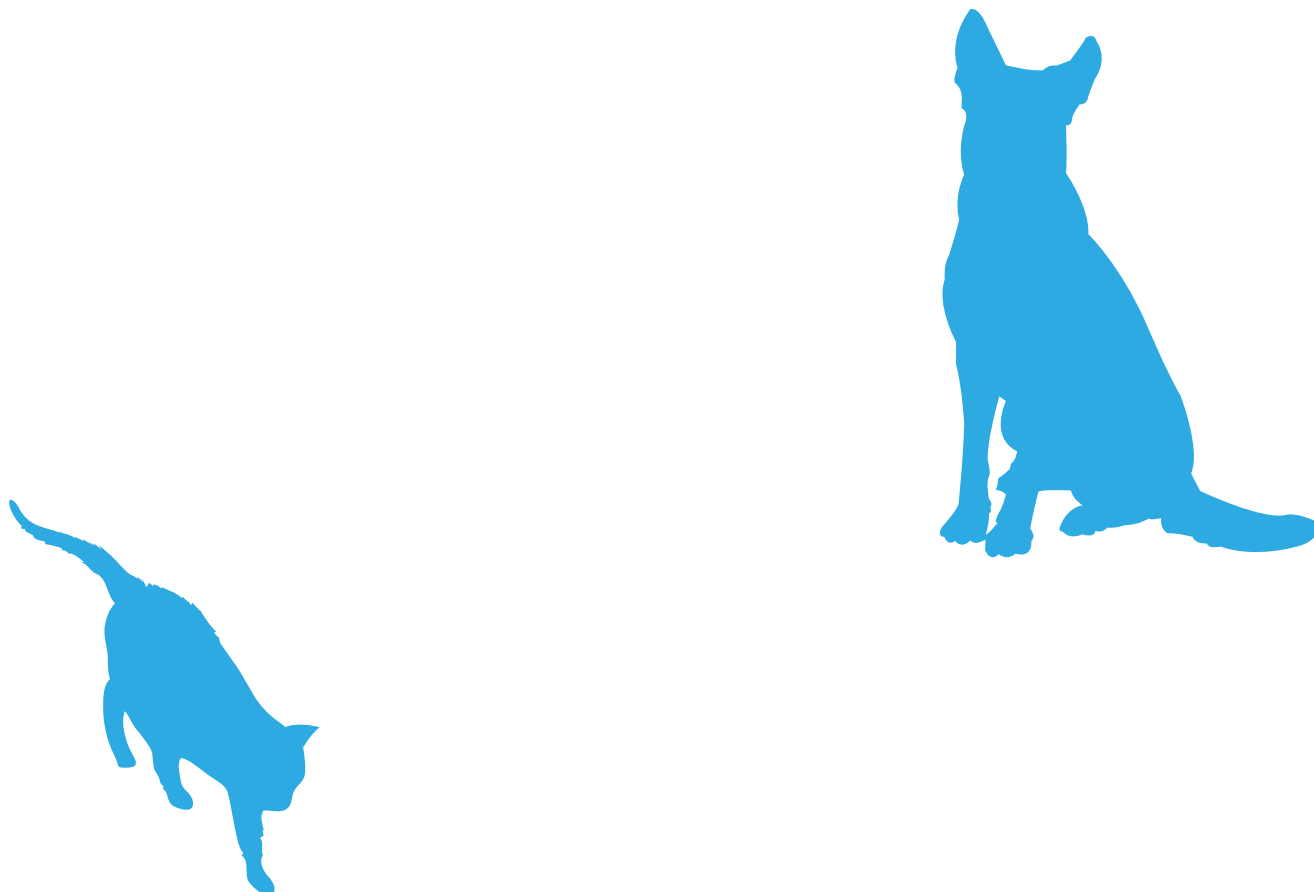
There is no minimum age at which someone can buy cats and dogs.

Law 205/2004 on the protection of animals provides for transporters, in general, to "carry animals under appropriate conditions, depending on the species, physiological state, sex, age, type of production, in order to avoid injury or physical exhaustion". The transport of cats and dogs must be done in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport, but in the Romanian legislation there are no specific provisions concerning commercial cat and dog transport. There is no training/education obligation for cat and dog traders.

Surgical mutilations

Surgery to change the appearance of an animal other than for curative purposes, such as tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation and declawing, is considered as animal cruelty and is prohibited.





Links to legislation

Ordinance of September 2014 on identification and registration of dogs:

https://rompetid.ro/files/downloads/legislatie/ORDIN_1-Identificare_caini.pdf

Law 205/2004 on the protection of animals:

http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/205%20din%202004_188ro.pdf

Ordinance 31/2008 on the implementation of the animal welfare law:

http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/3%20Ordin_31_2008-Norme_metodologice_de_aplicare_Legea_205_2004_190ro.pdf

Law 60/2004 for ratification of European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals:

http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/3%20Lege_60_2004-ratificarea_Conventiei_Europene_pentru_protectia_animalelor_de_companie_216ro.pdf

Ordinance 16/2010 (on sanitary and veterinary requirements for the registration and authorisation of operators dealing with live animals and animal products):

http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/Ordin%2016%20din%202010_21255ro.pdf